

Photo by Charles Kemard

The Other 24th Street Fair

Check out the Frenched antennae counterpointing the long, clean pinstripping on this machine. Mobile works of art like this low and lovely ride are just one part of the fourth annual 24th Street Cultural Festival. Crafts, drama, food, cultural displays, art, and a cornucopia of dance and music will fire up 24th Street between Mission and Potrero on Sunday, Sept. 19, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Bring the family and all your appetites. Admission is free.

VOL. VI, NO. 5

SEPTEMBER, 1982



THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

No Blank Check For Mini-Bank On 24th Street

By Steve Steinberg

Noe Valley community groups have split over a proposal to open a Wells Fargo "mini-bank" on 24th Street. The bank would replace the old Star Greeting Cards shop at 4021 24th St.

According to Tom Crane, president of the Noe Valley Merchants Association and owner of Colorcrane, a Wells Fargo branch would violate the special zoning regulations governing 24th Street by clustering financial institutions too close together. The proposed bank would be

Continued on Page 4

24-Trolley in the Trenches

By Nathan Salant

Residents living along the route of the 24-Divisadero bus line can expect more construction and power outages before the line is equipped for electric trolley coach service.

Work on the Noe Valley portion of the line is expected to be completed by late November, but outfitting of the entire route, which extends from Pacific Heights to the Bayshore district, will not be finished before July 1, 1983.

Muni officials believe the electric coaches to be quieter, cleaner and better suited to traverse the 24's hilly route than the diesel-powered motor coaches now in service. Perhaps as a measure of that confidence, the electric 24-Divisadero

will be routed off Church Street and over the steep Noe Street hill between 26th and 30th Streets.

Before this becomes a reality, though, more work is needed. A conduit must be placed below 26th Street from Castro Street to Noe, Noe to 30th, and 30th to Mission Street. In the next two months, people living along these streets should anticipate the same noise, dust and traffic tie-ups that beleaguered Castro Street residents in July and August.

Other steps still to come in the electrification process include installation of aluminum poles (which are sturdier than wooden poles), stringing of overhead wire (scheduled to begin in late September), and installation of the feeder cable to carry power through the conduit.

Brief power outages will occur along the route as PG&E installs taller poles and raises its power lines to allow Muni lines beneath them.

Electrification of the 24-Divisadero is part of Muni's Five-Year Plan, adopted in 1979. Last January's extension of the 24-line from Castro and 26th to Third and Palou was also part of the plan, which is designed to increase crosstown service.

"[The 24 extension] has turned out to be one of the more successful line changes," says Susan Chelone, a Muni transit planner. "Ridership really went up." In fact, the 24 experienced such a surge in ridership, at least up to the Castro Street Metro station, that Muni is considering extending the 8-Market line to Castro and 26th during peak periods, once electric wires are available. There are no plans to increase the frequency of the 24, however.

A major problem with the electrification conversion has been neighborhood resistance. Since construction on Castro Street didn't start until three years after adoption of the Five-Year Plan, many nearby residents and riders on the 24 were surprised and outraged when the street was torn up, seemingly without notice.

"I think that we [Muni] realized we didn't do enough outreach," to advise local residents, Chelone said. "All we can do right now is apologize. With future projects, we will try to do better outreach."

Among those future projects are the extension of the J-Church streetcar line to Balboa Park Station, and route changes on the 35-Eureka and 27-Noe lines.

A recent budget request for three staff positions to handle notification of neighborhood residents when service changes are imminent was turned down by the Board of Supervisors. "We really need someone to do neighborhood outreach," Chelone said. □

Creative Space Use: New Leases on Life

By Jeff Kaliss

In a time when most real estate is just a cellar in which to cultivate the root of all evil, it's a pleasure to find some property emerging into the sunshine of creative community use. During the summer the *Voice* identified four such spaces nearby—the Habitat Centre (18th Street near Sanchez); Studio W (22nd near Capp); Valencia Rose (Valencia Street between 18th and 19th); and the American Pictures Theater (20th and Shotwell)—and found all of them active and anxious to get the word out.

It was a bright and breezy Sunday in July when Ron Wiggin's Habitat shop on 18th Street was officially reincarnated as the *Habitat Centre*. Gone were the articles of "positive New Wave paraphernalia," which had succeeded the folk art with which Wiggin opened the shop "on the end of the hippy wave" in 1976.

"I was trying to do a quality fashion

store," he explains, "and I marketed myself into a corner. People simply didn't have the money for frivolous fashion. Still, I wanted to survive."

So he consulted a number of friends, who urged him to create "a new meeting and sharing place, using the props of the New Wave and bringing back the spiritual" from the seventies. Sipping Cribari, nibbling on nectarines, and scattering organic crumbs along the red carpet rolled out for the Centre's Grand Opening, Wiggin's friends and associates had good words for the former shopkeeper turned new age manager and booking agent.

"Ron has brought dynamite energy into this place," says Madalyn Suozzo, who studied dance and ritual with Anna Halprin and is now teaching at the Centre. "Habitat is a chance to integrate the life-art process."

Suozzo's Wednesday night class in "Movement Rhythms" imparts "a knowledge of the self through understanding the law of the body," and is open to "everyday people who like to move."

Sequoia, who teaches one of several yoga classes at the Centre, is similarly concerned with techniques that "open us more deeply to ourselves and each other." The three levels of his "Yoga for Gay Men," based on the "anatomically-oriented" hatha approach of Iyengar, serve to "celebrate the parts of ourselves that don't get expressed in bars."

Mary McCarthy and Nam Singh have relocated their practice from Sonoma to the rear of the Habitat Centre because "we want to do acupuncture oriented to the gay community."

McCarthy treated gynecological disorders at the Lesbian and Women's Clinic in Berkeley, and has studied with an acupuncturist. Singh trained in acupuncture and herbalism with his grandfather and at a Taoist monastery, where he learned to treat everything from amoebas to hepatitis.

"Nine times out of ten, I'd prefer that you take herbs and correct your diet,"

Continued on Page 8



Obituary

Charles Eisengrein Jr.

Local resident and former Colorcrane employee Charles Eisengrein Jr. died Thursday, Aug. 19. He was 33.

Charlie had recently learned that he had a heart condition. His death, nonetheless, was sudden. Services and burial took place in San Mateo.

Charlie left Colorcrane in February to study acoustical engineering after working for two years in the store's copy center. Before working at Colorcrane, Charlie had been employed by Bill Graham Presents as a sound engineer.

The Voice joins Charlie's friends and co-workers in mourning this deep loss.

Over the past years the community has been our main source of support. For this reason we want to let you know about some important events that are currently in the works at San Francisco Women's Health Center (SFWHC).

Most crucial is that we decided to close the office at 14 Precita St. at the end of April and direct our energy in other ways.

The reasons for this decision include: our small numbers and diverse interests, lack of paid staff since 1980, a drastic drop in attendance over the past three years at classes and workshops, little volunteer support to staff the office, and too few of us available to teach classes.

These problems began more than two years ago while we were still on 24th Street. The problems have escalated and intensified in these politically and economically difficult times.

In addition, some of the ideas from our original, innovative work have been incorporated into services offered by large institutions. Although these services lack the self-health perspective, consumers are responding to them because they do fill a need. This is especially true in the area of pregnancy and birth.

We want to emphasize that we are not ceasing to exist! Currently, as a core of seven women, we are exploring ways to work as a collective and to pursue work that reflects our changing interests.

At this time we are continuing to distribute SFWHC education literature and

LETTERS 20¢

EDITOR:

The Noe Valley Booth at the first San Francisco (urban) County Fair in the Moscone Center June 25-27 was a grand success, thanks to the generous volunteer contributions of about 100 Noe Valleyites and the cooperation of four neighborhood and merchants' associations. Special thanks to:

- Al Lanier for his superb booth design (12 x 20 ft.) and to his construction crew, Phil O'Brien, Vaughn Hopkins, Paul Lanier and Sean O'Neil.

- Ruth Asawa and Noe Valley artists Judy Dunworth, Kit Cameron, Ruby Lum, Mae Lee, Mary Lee, Peter Vaccaro and Mary O'Brien for the spectacular mural of colorful Noe Valley scenes based on photos by Allen Nomura.

- Irene Kane for her poignant photo display of neighborhood residents.

- Alvarado Arts Afterschool Program, aided by Meg Briskman, Nancy Hall, Karen Meadows, and Cactus Salazar, for the creative baker's clay mural.

- Vaughn Hopkins for a clever collage of 24th Street merchants and Jeff Kaliss

for his collage of Noe Valley Voice articles.

- Potted Mums and Accent on Flowers for their lovely flower arrangements.

- The Noe Valley Merchants Association, Friends of Noe Valley, Business and Professional Association of Noe Valley, and East & West of Castro Improvement Association for supplying funds for booth supplies.

- Chevron Inc. U.S.A. for booth space.

- And special thanks to 50 neighborhood folks who staffed the booth, giving it the neighborhood touch, and to the Noe Valley Ministry for hanging the mural in its Community Room until it is shown in other neighborhood locations and used again in next year's county fair. (Tentative plans are to have a Noe Valley game booth next year with a wheel of fortune, etc....ideas welcome.)

Thanks again to everyone who made the Noe Valley Booth the best neighborhood booth at the county fair.

Barbara Hopkins
Noe Valley
Booth Coordinator

Community Crosstalk

Changes and Challenges at Women's Health Center

to respond to requests for speakers on women's health issues. Also, Health Center members are prepared to give presentations to community groups and schools on the health effects of radiation, facts about nuclear power and the nuclear arms build-up.

The SFWHC is participating in developing a network with local and national groups to combat racism by using community-organizing skills. Our project is part of the United Methodist Voluntary Service network with whom we have been affiliated for the past 10 years. As part of this program, some of you made contributions to help send two Health Center members to Cuba last year. One of these women is now producing a slideshow about Cuba which will be used nationally.

As many of you know, one of the main aspects of our work has been the referral system to clinics and doctors, based on consumer feedback. Several of us are committed to continuing this service in a revised and updated form. Such a service has the potential to affect the quality and accessibility of health care which we all receive.

The new referral service will be bilingual in Spanish and English. We are rais-

ing money for two staff to revise and update the listings and to develop a recruitment and training program for volunteers to staff the phones. Our goal is to be in operation by the fall. Because of our relationship with San Francisco General Hospital, we are looking forward to housing the referral project at the hospital. Anyone interested in helping get this project off the ground can call Marie at 564-3204 (evenings).

As an outgrowth of our networking, a Bay Area workshop on "Alliance Building: Organizing for Disarmament and Human Needs" is being planned for September. This three-day workshop will bring together peace/anti-nuclear groups and human justice/social service groups in order to develop alliances to fight the economic and political situation. If you are interested in helping with this event, call Penn at 552-1499.

There are not enough words to express our many thanks for your past and continuing support and friendship. Because of your efforts, we have been able to offer much-needed, vital and exciting programs during the past 11 years.

We have always worked with a strong sense of responsibility to the women's community, helping to make dramatic

THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

1021 Sanchez Street
San Francisco 94114

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changes in the health care system in the areas of self-care, pregnancy and birth, and menopause.

We at the Health Center are proud of the history we share of working together over the past 11 years to make social and political changes for all of us.

Mona Bernstein, Penn Garvin,
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Editor's Note: Community Crosstalk is an open forum for Voice readers. Submissions of up to 750 words must be mailed by the 15th of the month preceding the month of issue. The Voice reserves the right to edit material received. Our address is 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114.

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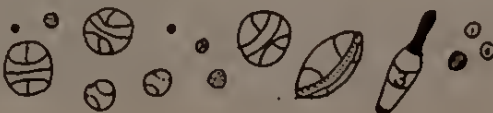
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Will Success Spoil the Street Fair?

By Gary Sabo

The sky was cloudy, the wind cold, and Grant Street was preparing for the second day of its weekend-long street fair. Here on 24th Street, optimists insisted the sun would eventually break through. Pessimists predicted rain and a stillborn Noe Valley Street Fair.

Both sides were off the mark—it was gray all day. But neither the stubborn low clouds nor competition from across the city inhibited Noe Valley's vigorous festivities as it claimed independence from San Francisco June 22.

In the first hours of the fair, the street was combed by neighbors and those familiar to the area. As the morning wore on, though, more and more strangers trooped into the Valley, parking became typically impossible, and by noon the street was a dense mass of revelers.

The Noe Valley Merchants Association, sponsor of the fair, wound up clearing expenses by a wide margin. The group netted close to \$3,500, an estimated \$500 more than from the previous fair in 1980.

According to association President Tom Crane, this street fair was also "the safest fair we've ever had." Hoping to produce a mellower atmosphere than in past years, the association asked merchants to sell alcoholic beverages in cans only, opted not to have a wine and beer booth in the street, and chose a lighter musical fare—no heavy metal to stir up the masses.

Crane also felt that while the gloomy weather seemed to have little effect on attendance, it did contribute to the fair's placidity. "The weather was less of a factor (in the success of the fair) than I thought it would be," he said.



Illustration by Florence Holub

Merchants Pretty Pleased

Rochelle Gottlieb, who chaired the association's Street Fair Committee, hopes the community will provide feedback on the fair to help in planning any future events. She also asked that those interested in planting a tree in front of their house, one of the projects earmarked for a share of the fair proceeds, contact her at 285-7979. Other plans include installing benches along 24th Street, a Christmas celebration, and printing a merchants' directory.

Merchants along 24th Street generally felt the fair was well policed and nicely organized, despite the prohibitive cost of buying a booth, which kept many of them out of the street itself. Instead, they sold products from tables in front of their stores.

A large number of booths were filled

by vendors from as far away as Vallejo, many of whom attend other street fairs in the city. Some merchants felt this was counter-productive to the mercantile interests of a street fair.

"I just think there should be more activities from the shops," said Joy McLeod, owner of Caruso Wine and Liquor shop. "People are a little hesitant to walk into stores when there's all those other people out there. I think they forget the stores."

Another common complaint was that the fair was a slick commercial affair lacking Noe Valley's unique character. The blame was frequently placed on Terry Pimsleur and Co., the public relations firm hired by the merchants association to ease the gargantuan burden of red tape associated with the production of a fair. (Pimsleur and Co. also produces the Union Street Fair and the Half

Moon Bay Pumpkin Festival.)

Michelle Coxon, owner of Quiche and Carry, felt that an excessive amount of outside competition 'mainstreamed' the fair. "When they allow so much in, you basically see the same thing at every fair. I hear that from everyone."

In response to such criticism, Crane said, "Either we use Terry Pimsleur or we don't have a fair." He didn't feel the fair had lost its individual quality. "We were still calling the shots."

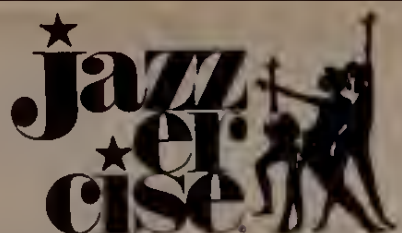
The benefits of having a professionally produced celebration were most apparent at the end of the day, when a clean-up took place that left the street spiffier than it had been early that morning.

Friends Have Misgivings

Whereas the merchants were mostly enthusiastic about the fair, the community had some reservations. Miriam Blaustein, president of the Friends of Noe Valley, the neighborhood group that until 1980 co-sponsored the fair, was openly disappointed with the atmosphere of this year's fair. She felt it was no longer a neighborhood event. "It's become a fair of strangers. It's almost showbiz."

In 1979 the Friends were beginning to express concern about the ever-increasing size of the fair, and wondered whether a scaled-down version would be more appropriate. Two years later they withdrew their sponsorship.

The birthdate of Noe Valley's street fair is uncertain, but a 1973 sidewalk sale, featuring the wares of local artists and craftspeople, is generally considered the event that launched this annual tradition. □



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Wells Fargo

Continued from Page 1

almost directly across the street from Gibraltar Savings and a half block from Olympic Savings.

Crane also sees the move by Wells Fargo as a direct challenge to the concept of the special use district, which is designed to limit commercialization of certain neighborhoods in the city.

"I'd like to see if big money can buy their way past our protective special use," he said.

Crane added that his group opposed the Wells Fargo move because it would essentially offer only limited, automated teller service to the community. He also noted that the branch would fulfill the special use quota as to the number of banks allowed in the neighborhood, thereby precluding any future full-service banks.

Wells Fargo officials have said that a Wells Fargo branch would include two automated teller machines as well as a personal banker, whose role has yet to be defined. There would be no "live" teller service available.

Twenty-fourth Street storefront space is too valuable, says Crane, to serve only residents with Wells Fargo express teller cards.

"If valuable space is taken up in the neighborhood, it should be of value to

the whole neighborhood," he said.

The merchants association, which, according to Crane, voted unanimously against the bank at its July meeting, plans to write a letter of opposition to the San Francisco Planning Commission and to send a representative to the commissioners' September meeting, at which time they will rule on the banking proposal.

Another Noe Valley community group, the East & West of Castro Street Improvement Club, has opted to support the Wells Fargo expansion. Fred Methner, secretary of the club, said the new bank would be in keeping with the spirit of special use and would prevent any "new-fangled boutiques" from leasing the storefront. The East & West Improvement Club seeks to avoid turning 24th Street into another Union Street.

According to Methner, Elsie Young, retiring owner of Star Greeting Cards, and her husband Gus would be allowed to keep their present apartment at the rear of the storefront, should the mini-bank move in.

The Friends of Noe Valley, one of the neighborhood's most influential groups, have yet to take a formal stand on the Wells Fargo question. The group's Steering Committee is scheduled to vote on the issue later this month. A source inside the organization said there had been a good deal of mixed feelings within the Friends concerning the bank.

The source, who preferred not to be identified, added that "nobody can come up with a clear objection to the bank." The group has, however, expressed concern about the prospect of increased street and sidewalk congestion resulting from a new bank.

Many of the Friends have been particularly surprised by Wells Fargo's selection of Al Lanier, for years an active member of the community group, as architect for the branch project.

Noting the opportunity to influence the group's opinion, organization President Miriam Blaustein, called the selection a "stroke of genius" on the part of the bank.

Wells Fargo officials have been very enthusiastic about a possible branch in Noe Valley. Larry Zanoline, vice president and district manager of the bank, said a 24th Street branch would be "a facility that we are going to utilize...in a different way than we've done before."

Zanoline added that a Noe Valley bank would be part of a new Wells Fargo strategy for servicing the Mission area. He said he had received good feedback from the neighborhood and did not anticipate a fight to open the bank. If the planning commission approves Wells Fargo's proposal, the branch could open later this year.

★ ★ ★

In a related banking story, Noe Valley's own proposed bank remains in limbo. According to Max Selva, owner of Selva Realty and one of the members of a group of business persons and residents trying to organize a Noe Valley Bank, the project has been stymied by opposition from the state banking department, which maintains that the area cannot support another independent bank.

Selva said the group was now trying to attract more local merchants to the venture. He conceded that the slow business climate had made it difficult to garner support. He remains optimistic, however, about a new bank's ability to prosper.

"My feeling is if we open a bank here, it would work wonderfully." □

Mother Teresa Brings Order To St. Paul's

By Mary O'Brien

For those of you who missed Herb Caen's note in the *Chronicle* a couple of weeks ago, Noe Valley has some new friends. On July 21, Mother Teresa, winner of the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize, came to St. Paul's Parish to oversee the opening of a novitiate of the Missionaries of Charity—the order she founded in India.

According to a spokesperson from the Archdiocese of San Francisco, Mother Teresa, who is 72, made a brief inspection of St. Paul's convent at Church and 29th Streets on June 4, after an address at St. Mary's Cathedral.

As reported by Caen, it was at that time that San Francisco Archbishop John R. Quinn invited Mother Teresa to send some of her Sisters to work in San Francisco. She replied, "Give me a convent and I will send them." One of St. Paul's two convents happened to be vacant.

The old elementary school convent, 312 29th St., was built in 1920. Since then it has been the home of the Silesian Fathers, the Sisters of the Sacred Heart, the United Farm Workers Union, and now the new residence for the Postulants and professed Sisters of the Missionaries of Charity.

The convent became the official site of the novitiate on July 22, celebrated with a mass of dedication in the convent chapel. The simple ceremony was attended by the new residents of the house, Mother Teresa, Bishop Quinn, Father Kevin Gaffey (the parish pastor), the Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who staff St. Paul's High School, and a few select parishioners.

The convent was made ready for its new occupants by the eager parishioners, priests and Sisters of Charity. On July 10, 30 workers showed up to clean and polish the old building. According to one report, the Sisters were welcomed enthusiastically and assured that anything they needed would be taken care of.

But the Missionaries themselves do not seek special treatment. On the contrary, they lead a life of self-sacrifice and dedication. Father Gaffey explains, "The Sisters' mission is to work with the poorest of the poor." In keeping with this calling, the Sisters asked that all carpeting, curtains and modern conveniences be removed from their three-story building.

They also do not expect recognition for what they do. When contacted by phone, Sister Ancy, head of the household, said timidly, "We do not wish to be in newspaper."

The Sisters are not hard to recognize, however, because of the distinctive habit worn by their order. The Postulants wear all-white saris, while the professed Sisters wear white saris with three blue stripes.

The accomplishments of the Missionaries of Charity are recognized and applauded worldwide. A special meeting was held at St. Paul's Aug. 28 to introduce the community to the Co-workers of Mother Teresa, an international organization of lay men and women who help the Missionaries of Charity in their work. Those interested in joining a newly formed local chapter should call the rectory at 648-7538 for details. □

Grassroots Politics in the 1980s

by the Institute for the Study of Labor & Economic Crisis

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"If graveyards follow on death, then what we need now are LifeYards to affirm what is precious about life and to remind us what we stand to lose in a nuclear war."

The LifeYard, a show of life-affirming banners set to open at the Noe Valley Ministry on Oct. 10, has already fired the enthusiasm of 40 Bay Area artists. The Ministry, sponsor of the show, wants to include as many talented Noe Valleyites as possible in the event.

Experienced artists who complain they "don't have enough time" and outright novices who say they "don't know how" are invited to the LifeYard Banner Workshop on Saturday, Sept. 11, at 1021 Sanchez St. The workshop starts promptly at 10 a.m. with slides of the New York LifeYard, installed in April of this year. There is no charge for the workshop; materials and some tools will be provided. Participants should bring a pair of scissors, something to share for lunch, a \$3 materials fee, and any odd art scraps (fabric, glitter, paint) they have lying around the house.

Space is limited, so interested persons should R.S.V.P. to Kit Cameron at 821-4117.

Pre-Pumpkin Plans

We heard a Dumb Joke the other day. There were these two Dumb Guys. They were so dumb, they came back from a Halloween party with burnt faces. Why? They were bobbing for french fries.

More intelligent locals might want to help in the planning of the second annual neighborhood Halloween Party at the Noe Valley Ministry. Last year's inaugural bash attracted about 200 young revelers, who won prizes for their costumes, gobbled safe refreshments, watched cartoons and toured a spooky and decidedly ungentrified haunted house built by neighborhood artists. Later, a party for second-generation children sent any remaining ghosts flying from the Ministry's steeple.

The first planning meeting for this year's party will be held Thursday, Sept. 16, 7:30 p.m., at 1021 Sanchez St. Those with a desire to see this alternative to trick-or-treat continue should come to the meeting or phone Barbara Hopkins at 285-2648.

Learn, Baby, Learn

Just over the hill, at Everett Middle School on Church and 17th, adults can enroll in any of several tuition-free evening classes presented by the San Francisco Community College District. Following the success of its summer curriculum, the SFCCD is offering 17 courses divided into two terms, the first from Sept. 8 to Nov. 9, the second from Nov. 10 to Jan. 28, 1983.

The fall curriculum includes classes in creative writing, sign language, and self-defense, as well as proper maintenance and repair of your home, garden, automobile, and federal income tax form. For further information about schedules and enrollment, call 346-7044.

From Bay to Bard

"What [Time] hath scanted men in hair, he hath given them in wit." That's according to Shakespeare, anyway (Comedy of Errors, Act II, Scene 2).

Seniors would be wise to check out the YMCA's annual trek to the Shakespeare Festival in Ashland, Oregon. For \$290 (\$20 less for members), you get to see the aforementioned play along with "Romeo and Juliet" and "Julius Caesar." The cost includes five nights of accommodations at Southern Oregon State College and Crater Lake National Park, six meals, theatre tickets, entrance fees, transportation and escorted travel.

Although "too swift arrives as tardy as too slow," (Romeo and Juliet, II, 6), you

SHORT TAKES



Photo by Ed Breen

Visitors to the San Francisco County Fair and Exposition earlier this summer got a taste of Noe Valley's varied culture and heritage from the collages and murals at our neighborhood's booth. Both school-age and adult artists contributed to the intricate murals pictured above. See Barbaro Hopkins' letter, this page.

better hurry. The tour starts Sept. 6 and returns the 11th. Call the Mission YMCA (586-6900), the Central Y (885-0460), or the Richmond Y (668-2060) for details.

Saturdays at St. Paul's

Parents whose children do not attend parochial school, but who would like to enhance their kids' religious education, might wish to investigate St. Paul's Saturday School of Religion.

Instruction begins Sept. 18 in the church's school building at 29th and Church. The next opportunities to register for classes will be after the 5 p.m. mass on Saturday, Sept. 11, as well as after the 9:30, 11:00 and 12:30 masses on Sunday, Sept. 12.

For more information about this annual program, call the school office at 826-4484 or the rectory at 648-7538.

Improv Your Ministry

Creative forces of music, dance, poetry, film and video will converge under the spire of the Noe Valley Ministry at 23rd and Sanchez in a multi-media benefit for City Celebration, the neighborhood arts' umbrella organization, and the Ministry's performance series.

The benefit is co-directed by Larry Kassin, Noe Valley jazz musician and promoter, and Steve Michaels, who operates the Friday night film series. They'll be joined by videographer/photographer Erich Seibert, poet Dianne Frank and dancers Keriak and Mark Pritchard.

The benefit happens at 8 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 24 and 25, and the proceeds will help the Ministry publicize and expand its series, including the purchase of badly needed light and sound systems. For more info, contact Jonnie Vance at 282-2317.

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Bring your folks to the Gymhoree Open House on Tuesday, Sept. 14—they'll be sure to enroll you. Or, for more information, have them call 348-2117.

Ballot and Barbecue

You should practice your electoral wisdom at the Friends of Noe Valley's annual election of officers, to be held at 8 p.m. next Thursday (Sept. 9) at the library, 451 Jersey St. An Election Committee is getting together a slate, but nominations will also be accepted from the floor. Rumor has it that present prexy Miriam Blaustein will step aside for a well-deserved rest.

Cigar smoke will then be replaced by the carbonic aroma of barbecue the following Sunday (Sept. 12). That's the date of the Friends' First Annual July 4th Picnic in the Fall, sizzling from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the library's outdoor deck.

Ruth Asawa and Al Lanier will bring their artistic cooking structures, and participants are asked to supply musical instruments; beverages and/or food to cook and/or share; and new recruits for the organization.



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By Jeff Kaliss

Sometimes it seems as though Noe Valley is changing so quickly that you need a scorecard, a copy of the planning code, and eight investigative reporters just to keep up with the boutiques and bus routes.

In a perhaps vain effort to keep our ink-stained fingers on the neighborhood pulse, we're now doing updates on some of the stories which have appeared in these pages over the past year or so.

If there's anything we've missed, please let us know by phone or letter.

'The Cnts and Quips of Malon De Loach' (May 1981 issue)

After a hair-raising period of looking for a new site, Malon gave way to yet another real estate office and relocated his harber shop in a narrower but longer space on Castro Street, just off 24th. He has also remarried, and his patient wife Julia must now share the burden of Malon's humor with his faithful customers.

'A Whale Latté Shakin' Goin' On?' (June/July 1981 issue)

Following the arty example of the Meat Market and La Boheme coffeehouses, the Cafe Metropole on Church Street near Clipper has replaced its "frighteningly busy" decor with gallery space.

Late last year, owner Jim Clark began exhibiting artwork by some of his friends, resulting in inquiries from other local artists. Currently on display are photos by Vern Brechen, Helen Keller, and Michael McAndrew; the eery, water fantasies of Arthur Bell; and a huge painting by Connic Gurtisen, surrounded by marquee lights. (The latter depicts a sailor about to be lured into a Broadway-type porn hall called "They Present War." In front of it stands a barker selling postcards bearing a lurid mushroom cloud.)

Also, Saturday nights at the Metropole are graced by a trio ("I would call it jazz," says Clark) comprised of Michael Austin on flute, clarinet and lead vocals; Chris Saunders on guitar, trumpet, and vocals; and Anthony Prael on keyboards. Weekday hours have been expanded to 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. to include breakfasts, and hamburgers are being grilled.

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Photo by Irene Kane

RE-TAKES



Portrait of a Dancer as a Young Man

Miguel Iglesias, known throughout the neighborhood for his fine custom work at "Mike's Upholstery," has moved his business to Santa Cruz. He and his wife Viola wanted to live closer to their son, and look forward to retiring there someday. In the meantime, Mike still has plenty of work to keep him busy, he says. Though he's spent the last 44 years cutting fabric and adorning furniture, Mike hasn't always been in the upholstery business. In his younger days, he taught dancing at the Arthur Murray Studios and at the Fairmont Hotel. A cardboard cutout of Mike, shown above, once greeted customers in a North Beach nightclub where he was a featured dancer. It was his wife, Viola Dean of Hoffman Street, who brought Mike to Noe Valley. He opened his first store in 1938 on the southwest corner of 24th and Vicksburg. Later he bought the building across the street which has housed his business until now. Mike says, "I already miss the nice people in Noe Valley. I've felt like one of the family there. But you have to change as you go along. I still own the building and I'll be around some times."

'Cruisin' the Jukes' (September 1981 issue)

The best thing about the jukebox which was installed with the opening of Noe's Ark at 24th and Church is that its little red "Make Selection" light is often on when you walk up to it.

The selection is basically A/C (Adult

Contemporary), with a sprinkling of jazz, country 'n' western, oldies (including "It's My Party" by Leslie Gore), and slightly left-of-center fare by Journey, Pablo Cruise, Toto, and the Stevies Nicks and Wonder.

At the other end of the strip, the venerable Meat Market Coffeehouse installed

last March what may be the most unusual and eclectic machine in the Valley. They've out-Piafed the Acme with not just two hut four of the Little Sparrow's hits.

Aside from Old Continental, you'll find Old Jazz (Billie Holiday), Old Rock (Buddy Holly and Chuck Berry), Old C&W (Patsy Cline), and even Old Tzarist (Tchaikovsky's "1812 Overture"). Top it off with "Viva El West Side" by the Trio San Antonio and Frank Zappa's "Don't Wanna Get Drafted," and you've got one wild and crazy box!

'Creeping Condos on Clipper' (May 1982 issue)

The showdown before the San Francisco Planning Commission between Hayman Homes, would-be developers of new Clipper Street condos, and the Friends of Noe Valley ended up being postponed from June 2 to July 15. This allowed time for Mark Cohen to pass the pro tem chair of the Friends' Planning Committee to Barbara Martin, who has a special interest in saving her Hoffman Street homestead from the shadows and slide that the condos might cause.

Martin assembled a contingent of her committee members and neighbors in dresses and neckties (variously) at the hearing room in City Hall, complete with charts, photographs, and over 700 signatures opposing Hayman's plans.

Alan Hayman was there also to complain about the bad housing market and the prohibitive cost of construction. However, the commission seemed in harmony with the Friends about the threat to the public view. Commissioner Balazar quipping that the only feasible option was "to excavate and build it underground."

Seriously speaking, Chairman Rosenblatt advised Hayman to "explore" the Friends' suggestion that the "visual public open space" on Clipper be preserved and that development be confined to one area only. "If you want me to, I'll go along with it," was Hayman's reply—to the commission, not to the Friends.

In fact, Martin has inspected the developer's most recent plans and found them to be probably unacceptable to either the Friends or the commission. She and her gang will return to City Hall when the matter is brought up once again, at the commission's Oct. 7 hearing.

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RUMORS

behind the news

By Mazook

TWENTY-FOURTH STREET BEAT: Shock waves were rumbling through the commercial facades and foundations of downtown Noe Valley last month, and local seismologists are still trying to interpret the leading indicators.

Money must be moving. Wells Fargo will most likely park in Star Greeting Cards' old storefront on 24th and establish a "mini-bank" featuring their version of the automatic teller, "express-stop." Behind this bank of robots will be real people, whom you can apparently meet by appointment only. Meet a banker, get a check.

Bank of America is remodeling its interior and soon the north wall will fall for more space for the lines to form. The second floor is being gutted to create more space for employees.

Olympic Savings and Loan has been acquired in a magnanimous money move by Los Angeles-based Coast Federal Savings and Loan. Noe Valley Branch Manager Brent Taufer assures us that all staff will remain. Let's hope Coast agrees.

There is "absolutely no truth" to the rumor that Gibraltar Savings is merging with or acquiring any other savings and loan, says Bob Chill, of the Beverly Hills home office.

P P P

It looks like Pyramid Realty is through in Noe Valley, though. By the time this ink is dry, the ink on Noe Valley Sports' lease for Pyramid's old spot should be, too. Ann Boyer says she's schlepping her sports across the street because she will have more space for less rent.

Insiders tell us that the latest offer to rent the long-vacant 24th Street Sports storefront came from a pornographic bookstore operator. "No thanks," said the landlord. Thanks.

Look for Red Iris Gallery to soon have a big sale of its schlock and feature the works of top-notch women artists.

Look for Double Rainbow Ice Cream in the September issue of *San Francisco*

magazine. Double Rainbow won first prize in the world series of ice cream competitions last month in Philly, PA.

A mention in this column to the person who locates a store on 24th Street that sells cigarettes for less than six bits (the current price at Herb's Fine Foods).

Casey's Cleaners' landmark sign and clock (that never worked) have finally bitten the dust. Bakers of Paris will open shop in that storefront soon, promising delicious breads and croissants.

Books Plus is now minus, but more books will be in store for local bibliophiles. A bookstore called Cover to Cover has moved in. Co-owners Barbara Levy and Nicky Salan operate another store on 24th Avenue and Clement and plan to stock this one with a lot of mystery, sci-fi, and psychology—the literary trilogy of the 20th century.

The So. Philly Cheesesteak Company is for sale—for a beefy one hundred and twenty thou. Owner Helga D'Arcy tells us she wants out so she can spend more time with her family. Hopefully, her North Beach shop will remain open.

Also on the block is Cameo Coffee. Asking price: \$175,000. Owner Michael Gest says he wants to put his energies into his wholesale coffee business. Michael adds that the retail business could be sold for wholesale if someone makes the "right offer." Café and deli, anyone?

Other local eateries are getting jittery as City Hall inspectors get tough. Sources say one local restaurateur blew his haystack after the city objected to his expanding kitchen.

Another local food mogul, Joel Coopersmith, is trying to preserve the rear deck of the Acme Cafe, which was built in 1973, but without the necessary permit. Joel has a petition with the signatures of 925 deck-supporters, and he'll present his case to the planning commission Sept. 16., where'll he'll probahly run into many of his neighbors. He says he hopes to meet with them beforehand to try to solve "the Problem."

Construction of a new Chinese restaurant on 24th near Church (next to

Shufat's Market) has been halted. City inspectors put a pink "stop" notice on the plywood front because they say it lacks the proper permits. If it ever gets built, our own inspectors tell us, it will be operated by the same folks who brought you the South China Cafe on 18th Street, over in our sister valley. Will we ever see the South China Cafe South?

Look for two more eateries, both Mexican restaurants, to show up soon—one in the storefront formerly housing Taylor's Public House on 24th above Maggie's, and the other in the former premises of the Wok and Pan at 1332 Castro St.

P P P

A sign of the times, the *New York Times*, now has two vending machines on 24th Street. At 50 cents, it's only two bits more than the *Chron* or *Ex*, not a bad bargain. If they'd only publish a San Francisco supplement!

It may be news to you that Mother Teresa's Order of the Missionaries of Charity has established a convent right here in Noe Valley in a building next to St. Paul's Catholic Church at 29th and Church Streets. St. Paul's Father Kevin Gaffey says the Sisters will seek out the city's neediest and find ways to help them. Their new living quarters, by the way, have been stripped clean of carpets, drapes and all other modern accoutrements to give the nuns the feeling of what it's like to be poor, Gaffey said.

HOT FLASHES from Mercury, Nevada. The United States Department of Insanity detonated yet another 20 to 150 kiloton atomic bomb less than 500 miles southeast of Noe Valley on the eve of the 37th anniversary of the Hiroshima blast (Aug. 6, 1945). Several local earthquakes have been recorded by seismologists in recent months, possibly resulting from these blasts. This was the 593rd admitted blast at this site. Mother Teresa, we need you more in Nevada.

P P P

MORE MOUTHS
to feed.

Photo by Irene Kane

Lissa Matross, Richard Doctoroff and daughter Mica became a trio on July 7, at Children's Hospital. Mica enjoys life the most when she is being carted around in her snuggly. She can be seen with one or the other of her parents around the Noe-Castro area at all times of the day and night. Lissa and "Doc" found the birth experience "thrilling" and now could spend all day watching for one of their daughter's smiles. Mica's mom designed the birth announcement during the baby's pre-dawn feedings.

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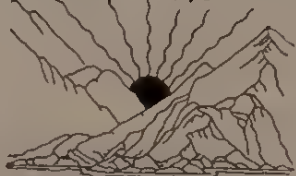
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Creative Space Use:

Continued from Page 1

Singh advises, rather than undergo the needle treatment.

On the desk in their small, neat clinic room, isolated from the activity out front, McCarthy and Singh keep a basketful of Oriental candies to impart good luck and cover the bitter taste of some of the medicinal herbs, which they purchase in Chinatown.

Habitat also offers classes in acting, meditation/healing, Tai Chi, and tarot, hosts "Psychic Fairs," and operates a Friday night film series. Wiggin is still seeking teachers with an "esoteric, holistic, avant-garde focus," and would like to develop a video center, a "mythological mime theater," and a neighborhood newsletter.

He can make the Centre's space available on a rental basis for meetings, lectures, parties, and performances, and you can call him about all these new age marvels at 626-8039. The Evergreen Acupuncture Clinic can be reached at 863-1980.

Last spring Sharon Medairy found herself 30 years old and comfortably employed as the manager of a glass company. A lot of her friends, though, were women artists with very little money, so she decided to open Studio W "instead of buying a house." Located in a Mission District storefront formerly occupied by a beauty salon, Studio W is now functioning successfully as a monthly meeting place for women poets and a gallery for women painters and sculptors. On Aug. 5 it saw the premiere of "Fantasy in Flesh: pay a Dollar, talk to a Nude Girl!"—a one-act play by local feminist comedian Lea DeLaria.

Medairy adheres to a woman-artists-only policy at Studio W; it is one of only six such galleries in the U.S., and she thinks its special character encourages women to come out of the artistic closet. She has been approached by several women who have never exhibited before, and has brought them together with kindred spirits at the gallery's monthly Full Moon Potlucks. However, she is "not a separatist and not a sexist-type woman at all," and gallery activities and DeLaria's play are both attended by males.

Her approach to "Fantasy in Flesh" was cautious—even DeLaria refers to it as "Theater of the Obscure"—but she recognized it as a "good way to get people in to see the art," before and after the Thursday, Friday and Saturday night performances. Now, as the play's co-producer, she's come to like and respect it. "I've seen it a dozen times and I'm still laughing," she says, "and it's also



Sharon Medairy (left) recently expanded her art gallery, Studio W, to a new use: the premiere of playwright Lea DeLaria's (right) one-act "Fantasy in Flesh: pay a Dollar, talk to a Nude Girl." During the week DeLaria takes her comedy act to the stage at Valencia Rose, a few blocks away.

bringing in three-fourths of our rent."

DeLaria conceived the piece on a trip to a jazz club in North Beach, when she was confronted by one of Broadway's low-consciousness strip joints.

"As I understand the set-up," says DeLaria, "you walk in and there are a bunch of naked women on a turntable, and you pick the one you want and talk to her in a booth. The nakedness of a woman enclosed in a glass booth seemed to me a perfect parallel for what happens in this society."

DeLaria's "naked girl" character, played with guts and crackle by Honey Goldberg, is existentially encountered by a host of talky characters, including a tequila-toking cleaning lady, an uptight transvestite, a paranoid youth, and a menacing but meaningless mafioso. The talented cast makes full use of the gallery space, slamming in and out the back door, knocking around in Medairy's (off-stage) office, hiding in a closet, and mingling with the audience. The set, itself a piece of living art, stays up during the gallery hours (Saturdays, noon to 6 p.m., and Sundays, noon to 5 p.m.), although the seats are stacked away.

Medairy was also pleased with a beginning film class taught at Studio W by Jean Allsworth. Not only did they complete a Super-8mm sound film of International Women's Day, but the class was

profitable enough to finance the purchase of editing equipment.

Medairy plans to produce film portraits of Bay Area women, and to begin a series of screenings of women's films this December. Her focus will remain on art, though.

She also wants the gallery to succeed financially, as more than just a tax write-off. At this point, her "regular job" with the glass company is paying for much of the gallery's expenses. At the current rate, Medairy estimates it will be a year and a half before Studio W can break even, and five years before she can derive a substantial income from it.

"I've learned that I have much more patience than I ever thought I had," she says. It would help, though, if she could find a professional woman, perhaps an accountant or attorney, to rent the space when it's not otherwise being used, on weekdays.

Sharon Medairy can be reached about Studio W's activities and space at 641-9299. For reservations for "Fantasy in Flesh," which runs through this month, call 346-9401.

When not selling tickets to her play at Studio W, the ever-witty Lea DeLaria (billed as "F--kin' Dyke") can be caught

playing to a packed house at Valencia Rose. Attendance at "Gay Comedy Night" has picked up since her partner in crime, Carol "Food Sexual" Roberts, got written up in the *Chron/Ex's* pink section last month. In fact, the Rose's theater space is no longer able to contain the crowds, and partners Ron Lanza and Ward Smith have decided to expand the weekly series to two nights (Monday and Tuesday).

Lanza realizes that the majority of his business, since last year's opening, has come from the nearby women's community ("They were here before we were!"), although the make-up of the clientele changes nightly, depending on what's on stage. A recent all-male production of "Cinderella" attracted many gay men, while "I Hate Music," a revue based on Bernstein's melodies, drew a "pretty straight crowd."

Regardless of sexual preference, most visitors to the Rose agree that the building, originally a 19th-century funeral parlor and later the home of Venus de Milo antiques, is a wonder and delight as Lanza and friends have transformed it. Perky cafe tables support the dinner creations of what the Underground Gourmet has dubbed the best vegetarian chef in the city. Diners have preferential seating if they stay for the show, and are at leisure to wander among the paintings, photographs and paper wall-hangings that adorn the walls on the first and second floors.

The theater itself reflects Lanza's own



Tapestries on the walls of the American Pictures Theater reflect the intensity of Jacob Holdt's photographic images of this country's "Black underclass."

creativity and dramatic experience. He has just finished a summer with ACT, has acted with Theater Rhinoceros, and opens this month in "Torn Tulle," a new

Continued on Page 9

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New Leases on Life

Continued from Page 8

play about four drag queens and a mafia porn theater owner (no relation to DeLaria's play). Thus he knows how much actors and singers appreciate the "live sound quality" of the auditorium, and how much audiences appreciate its cleanliness and imagination: Moorish arches abound, and a herd of life-size camels' heads (sculpted by Anita Synovae) peer in curiously from the side walls.

Lanza and Smith plan to expand the backstage dressing rooms and install a "wonderful lighting system," so that they can continue to attract top-drawer talent. "We're looking for variety, but also for quality," says Lanza.

"It's important that we like the entertainment because we live here." The two partners and Akiko Shimamura, creator of the wall-hangings, occupy the three apartments on the Rose's second and third floors. The second floor has also functioned as a gallery, a classroom, a rehearsal space, and a meeting place for the Gay Freedom Day Committee, Slightly Older Lesbians, and Women Against Rape. The cafe is sometimes opened to provide beverages and snacks to these groups, but service is otherwise limited to dinner.

Lanza is already involved in structural modifications to Valencia Rose—including making it wheelchair accessible—but he warns that "this is a business, not a non-profit corporation; it's gotta pay its bills or I'll have to shut it down." Fortunately, he has a "kind" landlord who asks a fair per-square-foot price and has taken responsibility for the installation of a sprinkler system and the repainting of the exterior. (The choice of color, Ward Smith's idea, gave the place its name.)

Lanza's partners and employees have also put out a great deal of support and effort, and word-of-mouth-and-media should help keep the kitchen and stage busy and the rooms upstairs rented to needy organizations.

Information, schedules, and reservations may be had at 552-1445.

Jacob Holdt is used to staying up late. His epic slideshow, which plays Wednesday through Sunday evenings at the American Pictures Theater, runs 4½ hours with a half-hour intermission. But the night before he was interviewed last month had been tougher than usual, filled with sleepless anxiety about how to connect with show with a broader audience.

Part of the problem may be the location. The theatre is in a part of the Mission unfamiliar to many potential viewers. Holdt chose the site, formerly a well-beloved neighborhood bar, in preference to some he'd looked at in Noe



A reincarnation of a funeral parlor, Valencia Rose now caters to the stomachs, ears and funny bones of a mixed clientele, and rents its upstairs spaces to a variety of organizations as classrooms and gathering places.

Photo by Irene Kane

Valley and other neighborhoods, both for the size and the reasonable rent. He and other members of his commune live in the apartments above. Another deterrent has been the length of the show, although Holdt has encouraged the way to see the two parts of the show on two separate evenings, if they prefer.

It's unfortunate that such things are keeping audiences below the 30 per night that the show needs "to survive." The neighborhood is in fact quieter and safer than many in the city, and "American Pictures" is so powerful a statement that the viewer barely notices the passage of time. What is noticed is a deeply moving narrated pictorial record—3,000 color slides—of Holdt's five-year, 100,000-mile journey across the United States in the early seventies.

Raised in a small Danish town with an image of America as "one big boring White Middle Class," Holdt decided to

see the country as a vagabond, staying in the homes of people he met along the way. He had no photographic training, but his father, a Lutheran minister, shipped him a half-frame automatic-exposure Canon Dial camera in hopes that his photos might dispel rumors back home that the wandering boy had become a junkie and co-habitor with prostitutes.

In fact, Holdt *did* encounter junkies and prostitutes in northern cities, as well as southern Black farm laborers, unwed mothers, ex-cons, poor white trash, and more rarely the magnates, matrons, politicians and debutantes at the other end of society. Many of these people shared their beds and stories with Holdt, who later incorporated in his soundtrack the music he heard in their homes. The bearded vagabond found work when it was safe and sold his blood to buy film. He finally gave up shooting and returned

to Denmark after his good friend, prison reformer Popeye Jackson, was assassinated in San Francisco in 1976.

The slideshow was originally presented by Holdt at his father's church, and word of it spread across the small country in a matter of weeks. Dubbed "Amerikanske Bilder" by the Danish press, the show was repeated in schools and eventually established at a permanent theater in Copenhagen, where it has become the country's longest-running theatrical production. Similar productions have been successful in Amsterdam, Paris and Stockholm, and British and German TV have broadcast the show in serialized form.

Holdt is still in demand for personal appearances back home, but it's very important to him that he help establish the show here in the middle of the society whose contradictions he has worked to expose. "You'll never be able to see the effect as a vote for more liberal candidates," Holdt admits, "but what I can see, when I walk the streets, is people who come up and tell me it has changed their lives."

Holdt hopes that the show will not be perceived as mere entertainment or as an historical document; such an image would vitiate its impact. Aside from promoting the message of the pictures, Holdt's American Pictures Foundation, headquartered in Copenhagen, has an economic raison d'être: "to make money for constructive work in developing countries." The Foundation has earmarked funds for building a school and helping farms in Zimbabwe, where "I really see hope for an integrated society."

To further get out the message and bring in the funds, Holdt wants to establish a show in New York and also make it available, in shortened form, to schools and institutions in the Bay Area and elsewhere. The present American Pictures Theater has merits as a base of operations: living quarters are close-by, the long polished-wood bar works well at intermission, and the high walls allow both for the multi-image projections and the display of huge tapestries, inspired by the slide images and assembled by Danish artist Annie Hedvard. However, to help finance the cost of publicity and reproducing slides and tapes, Holdt would like to rent out the theater to groups who want to screen films, teach classes, or throw parties, with the optional use of the audio-visual equipment.

And sooner or later Holdt wants to take his camera off the shelf, pick up his son, little Jacob, from his Noe Valley nursery school, and hit the road again.

Call 550-0122 for information on shows and space at the American Pictures Theater. □

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中國



CHINA

Voice photographer Charles Kennord recently returned from a three-week hiking "vacation" in China. When he wasn't out of breath or film, he was snapping pictures. Here's a selection of shots from the World Outside Noe Valley, along with the photographer's brief descriptions.

Clockwise from lower left, this page: Childcare in the hands of the commune nursery, or Granny, is required from two months, or from six months if a couple promises this is to be their only child; a Taoist, living at the foot of Mt. Tai in Shandong Province, keeps his vigor at age 93 through practice of Chi Gung; free enterprise markets are common outside the biggest cities, and can provide anything from millinery to millstones; a Buddhist pilgrim rests in the clouds of Szechwan's Mt. Emei, having climbed 8,000 feet; Mt. Emei's monasteries provide lodging for vacationers, solace for pilgrims and means of support for monks and nuns; fruits and roots from the four corners are gathered together in a hospital herbalist's store; a Beijing family shares a joke with guests.



中國

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Home Grown Pages From Early Stages

By Peter Magnani

One of the most exciting events in Joy Magezis' life took place on a recent morning when a huge Consolidated Freightways van pulled up to her 27th Street flat and unloaded five thousand pounds of books.

"They woke me up," she recalls. "They wanted to know where my forklift was."

If you can think of more exciting ways to be jarred into consciousness, it's probably because you don't operate a fledgling cooperative publishing company out of your house, as Magezis and her husband Boh Biderman do. The books were copies of Biderman's first novel, *Letters to Nanette*, hot off the press, and copies of *The Blind Eagle: Stories from the Courtroom* by East Bay journalist Harriet Ziskin. Magezis' novel, *Green Leaves Turn Red*, is in production and due out soon.

For Biderman and Magezis, the excitement of receiving the first two editions from their Early Stages Press was deeper than mere pride in having something they'd written published. "We were involved in every step of the process," Biderman said. "We have a special relationship with these books that most authors never have."

Their relationship extends beyond writing to include everything from designing the typography and book jackets to flogging copies around to bookstores and arranging for their own publicity. Biderman enjoys contacting reviewers and stores personally, and appearing at readings and wine and cheese parties, he says. (He's just set up a book party for Harriet Ziskin at Modern Times Bookstore on Valencia Street Saturday, Sept. 11, at 7:30 p.m.)

Mostly though, Biderman, Magezis, Ziskin and other members of their publishing and distributing co-op are pleased

not to have to deal with what they see as a corrupt New York publishing establishment geared to generating maximum profits with minimum risk.

"Publishing houses now make decisions by corporate cost accounting," Biderman says. "They'll shred your book in two weeks if it doesn't sell, to avoid paying inventory taxes and to make room for their next gamble. You can't have first novels on that basis."

Biderman is concerned about the fate of literature not just as a writer, but as a reader. "I'm outraged at the kind of stuff that's coming out, especially about the sixties. It's either sensationalism or cheap genre stuff that doesn't deal with any significant issues. A lot of people I

know are looking for something more substantial."

Early Stages Press has an unmistakably sixties flavor to it. Biderman's novel is about a draftee into the "peacetime army" of 1962 who wonders why he's being trained for jungle warfare. He wises up and eventually resists his destiny as a member of the vanguard of American adventurists in Vietnam. Magezis' book begins in 1966, a year after Biderman's ends. Its protagonist is a VISTA volunteer who grows up and becomes politicized. The couple has already discussed doing sequels and even writing cooperatively, so that the two characters could appear together in one volume.

Ziskin's book, *The Blind Eagle*, consists of slightly fictionalized accounts of courtroom proceedings in Alameda County, including the celebrated Huey Newton assault trial which she covered. Her thesis is that our judicial system dishes out not justice, but elaborately contrived and entirely self-serving ritual sacrifice.

The sixties spirit lies not just between the pages, but in the decision that Biderman and Magezis and their friends made to forsake the publishing establishment to "do their own thing." Biderman says the organizing skills he learned back then are useful in the writing, producing, and marketing venture he and his colleagues are engaged in now.

"A small press like ours can't print and distribute 100,000 books. But we can put out 5,000 and stir up a lot of interest. We understand working with ideas on a grassroots level, and we know something about our audience."

Another thing the people at Early Stages understand, according to Biderman, is the need to produce a slick enough product that stores will accept. "Unlike a lot of things in the sixties, we really take our craft seriously. We're not self-publishing these books," he stresses. "They've gone through just as hard a mill as any book that comes out of New York." That includes professional designers, hired editors, and no-holds-barred critiques of each other's work, Biderman says.

One important ingredient that Biderman claims is hard to come by in the major leagues is peer support. And Magezis is quick to extend the principle to encompass the whole neighborhood. "We wrote these books here in Noe Valley," she says. "People here are very supportive of artists and interested in what you're doing, and that's very helpful. I really feel like I want to have people in the neighborhood share this with us."

On Borrowed Time

Need a little incentive to renew that library card? Here's what's stacking up at the Noe Valley branch, 451 Jersey St.

Kids' Fiction and Non-fiction

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The Tamarindo Puppy and Other Poems by Charlotte Pomerantz
The Princess Who Always Ran Away by Marijke Reesink
Wendy and the Bullies by Nancy K. Robinson
The Wish Card Ran Out by James Stevenson
Michael and the Dentist by Bernard Wolf
The Robot and Rebecca: the Mystery of the Code-carrying Kids by James Yolen

Adult Fiction

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Different Seasons by Stephen King
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The Color Purple by Alice Walker

On the Line: New Gay Fiction edited by Ian B. Young

Adult Non-fiction

How to Beat the Video Games by Michael Blanchet
Edible Landscaping by Rosalind Creasy
Hostel USA: the Official American Youth Hostels Handbook by Michael Frome
The Robert Half Way to Get Hired in Today's Job Market by Robert Half
Ain't I a Woman: Black Women & Feminism by Bell Hooks
The Young Athlete's Health Handbook: a complete, illustrated guide to sports medicine and sports psychology for parents, players, coaches and teachers by Douglas Jackson
Great Expectations: America and the Baby Boom Generation by Landon Y. Jones
49er Fever by Leonard Koppett
Israel Now: Portrait of a Troubled Land by Lawrence Meyer
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The Days Grow Short: the Life and Music of Kurt Weill by Ronald Sanders

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Cyrus Cassells' Poems From Past Lives

The Mud Actor

By Cyrus Cassells
Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1982
Available at Small Press Traffic

Reviewed by Gabrielle Daniels

The strange dream recurred throughout his childhood. "I would be somewhere in a city, with people," poet Cyrus Cassells relates, "and suddenly there would be this 'whiting-out' where everyone and everything vanished."

By the time Cassells reached 17, the dream had metaphorsed into a vision more terrifying and apocalyptic: "I was surrounded by devastation, ash and rubble. I was trying to find who I believed to be my brother out of the ruins. What had been a small child, bones and flesh, disintegrated into dust in my hands."

It wasn't until 1979, while viewing an exhibit on Hiroshima at Stanford University, that Cassells recognized his dream. He was witnessing the devastation following the only nuclear catastrophe visited on man—the incineration of Hiroshima and later Nagasaki, Japan, in 1945.

Haunted by these dreams and other inexplicable phenomena, Cassells decided to undergo past-life regression therapy with Glenn Williston of San Francisco. The result of their four-year collaboration, which introduced Cassells to his past "selves," was *The Mud Actor*, a book of poems that became a 1982 selection of the National Poetry Series.

Although some experts in psychology refuse to accept past-life regression as a legitimate "science" or therapy, relegating it to the paranormal or psychic realm, Buddhist scholars have promoted the idea of a past life, or lives, for centuries. In their view, there are many steps to enlightenment. Each life lived is a lesson, or progression, towards that enlightenment, purging old "sins" or mistakes, and teaching "right" ways. A life can be lived over and over again—frequently conjuring up that feeling of déjà vu, "I have been here before"—until the lesson is finally "learned."

Cassells has made startling parallels between events in his life and those in the life he led as Yoshi Nakamura, who died in Hiroshima.

For instance, the white heat and dust

of the explosion choking Nakamura corresponds to the gasping attacks for air the child Cyrus Cassells suffered as an asthmatic in the Mojave Desert:

*I no longer seemed to have a body,
only a feeling of searching
through cruel heat...*

*The country of ash. The country of ash.
From "The Memory of Hiroshima"*

*...I close my eyes
against the sun, the endless space,
and hear a small boy stalled
and gasping:*

*Mud in my chest, no air;
I am drowning; I am going to die.
From "The Mud Actor"*

Cassells lived so intensely with "the memory of Hiroshima" that he refused to discuss it with close friends and even family members. "The Memory of Hiroshima" is the final poem in the book, the culmination of a painful, yet cleansing process. An excerpt from the poem was read at the Aug. 6 march and commemoration of the nuclear blast at Hiroshima and Nagasaki held at San Francisco's Nihonmachi (Japan Center). Cassells' attraction to the music of

Erik Satie provided him with yet another journey back through time, this time as Henri Lecroix, a turn-of-the-century Parisian sophisticate in love with Lucienne Victoire. The lovers were "a man and woman who failed to comfort each other." Eventually, Lucienne disappears from Henri's life, leaving him holding a hatbox in the park, anticipating her return.

His "Glossienne: Epilogue" is the result of a vision Cassells had of the two being reunited by the very action of his writing. As he recorded the lovers' conversation like a scribe, they became aware of him in the present.

*"Mademoiselle Victoire, I believe
you left something," I say,
and give you the box
with the Greenaway hat.
You smile at me:
"Henri, how could I have forgotten?"
And I touch your arm—in relief.*

Cassells does not ask his reader to believe in his experiences. (He may have stretched his credibility, however, when on a recent visit to Japan he tried to persuade two Japanese at Hiroshima that he died there.) But some readers may question his work because they find it hard to believe that a young gay Black man can lay claim to exposure to so many races and cultures during his lifetime. Cassells' personal *hejira* seems unfamiliar to those used to accepted models of Black American experience.

His poetic response is that "Everything in life is resurrection." The lesson the human race has failed to learn is the absolute value of human life.

As Yoshi Nakamura, he did not choose to die, as he wished, for the emperor. As Henri Lecroix, he chose to die, volunteering for France in the Great War, World War I. Cassells believes that even with the knowledge of the horror and self-destructiveness of war, there's a current tendency for people to "will their own deaths," to give up, grow cynical and exploitative, and actually long for a greater holocaust than Hiroshima.

Cassells argues that beyond the tragedy of Hiroshima is not death, but an ultimate lesson: "there is no choice but peace." □



Photo by Rachel Thompson

Experiences from prior incarnations propel Cyrus Cassells' poetic vision. A cultural chameleon, he breaks the mold of the stereotypical Black American writer.

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Mobius

By Bill Yard

Lewis was standing at the sink, washing himself, when he remembered the laundry. Quickly he dried off and fastened his belt. He could hear her deep, slow breathing as he walked down the hall, past her room. The door was open, but he did not look in.

One thing had led to another. First the empty Saturday morning, with nothing to do but the laundry. He fed the machine at the laundromat on Castro and turned to leave. The bum sleeping on the bench, next to the pay phone, woke up and asked, "Do you have any cigarettes?"

Lewis shook his head.

At the Meat Market he was sipping a mocha, reading the sports pages, when she walked in. She was attractive; she seemed accessible; he knew that their liaison, if any, would be finite, perfect. He watched her stretch to read the uppermost notices. Then he put down the sports pages and reached into his back pack. He pulled the battered, coffee-stained copy of Borges' *Ficciones* from the pack and opened it, as usual, to page 31.

The woman brought some tea and sat down at an adjacent table.

Lewis had found the book at a garage sale a few years back. He never had the time to read it, but he found it to be an acceptable prop.

She sipped her tea and glanced at the title of the book he was reading.



One thing led to another. They discussed the mobius quality of the Coltrane solo squirting from the Meat Market jukebox. A chaos of notes never quite free, always eventually turning back into the melodic order.

He paused long enough to run around the corner, throw his clothes into the dryer. Again the bum asked him for a cigarette; again Lewis refused. As he returned to the coffeehouse, he regretted having worn his ragged jeans. He would explain that the rest of his clothes were in the dryer.

When he sat down she was reading the jacket blurb about Borges. Yes, it's a good book, he replied. He offered her a cigarette. You could say that I'm self-employed, he explained. The woman asked, "Do you have a girl friend?"

Lewis shook his head.

He offered her a ride. It was a comfortable, familiar place on 25th. He looked around. Redundant clusters of Cost Plus objects. Matches from seafood joints. An Escher print on the wall.

She unfolded the futon.

He stared out the corner bay window. In the distance, a lone man drove for a lay-up beneath James

Lick's basketball hoop. Behind the library on Jersey, a little boy poked around in the garden, his pants dirty. Across the street, an old man snooped through a box of books at a garage sale.

Lewis closed the curtain.

When they were finished, she picked up *Ficciones* from where it had fallen, next to the futon. She began to read. When she fell asleep, he put the book back into his pack. He stood up quietly and went into the bathroom.

He was standing at the sink, washing himself, when he remembered the laundry.

When he got to the laundromat, his clothes were gone.

He walked back out into the sun. He turned the corner at Bud's and felt his stomach grab itself like a fist, like when he was a little boy and had just dirtied his new pants.

At the Meat Market he was sipping a mocha. When he tried to rub the tension from his jaw, he felt the stubble.

An old man walked in. It was the bum from the laundromat, now clean-shaven, dressed in comfortable familiar clothes, holding a bag. He went over and fed the jukebox. A Coltrane solo squirted from the machine.

The old man bought some tea and sat down at an adjacent table. From the bag he produced a pack of cigarettes and a battered copy of Borges' *Ficciones*. He pulled out a cigarette and lit it. He opened the book to the beginning and began reading. □

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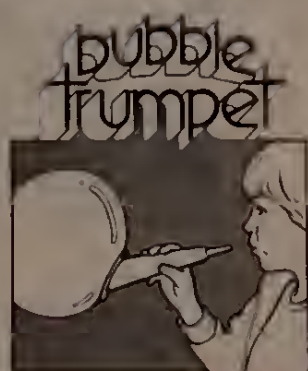
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By Elaine Molinari

Synopsis: In Part 6 of the Fairviews' story, our Noe Valley family, residents of San Francisco since 1851, watches the expansion of the city and the resultant urbanization of their spacious vale.

October, 1876

Dear Abigail and family,

We were greatly encouraged to receive word from you that Lucinda seems to be responding to her change of scenery. She had been so despondent for so long a time following the loss of her husband, and then the passing of our dear brother Charles. This grief followed closely behind the loss of position she felt after the war, she being so closely aligned with the "Chivalry," as the Southern society here has been called.

After selling the South Park house, she stayed with us for some time, but even the warmth and friendliness of the Valley could not lift her spirits. I am saddened when I think that being each other's only "family" within thousands of miles, we were so desperately unable to reach each other for understanding and consolation, so different have become our values and purposes. I am concerned and hopeful that her European travels will have a soothing effect on her.

The remaining members of the Fairview family have become firm in their belief that there is a certain passion in pioneering and that it would be most untimely and devastating to fail to prosper. With one of the properties she inherited from Uncle Whitmore, Kate is taking boarders at her residence on Union Street near Dupont, and has become a charitable muse to some artists and writers living nearby. They know they will find an extra dinner plate at her table when they find themselves "between patrons" as they so humbly put it.

Quite predictably, Kate and I have found we share an outrage at the anti-Chinese sentiment gaining ground here. We have hired the children of friends who are Chinese to harvest and take to market some of our produce, but we have not felt any repercussions probably due to our distance from downtown. However, emotions are running high, "a fever of contempt" has surfaced, aimed not at a murderous, deceitful or lazy sub-grouping as is the usual bigotry, but at the Chinese for their industry, integrity, sobriety and economic shrewdness.

Most of the animosity is harbored by the jobless workers and the proprietors and employees of restaurants and laundries, people in direct competition for jobs with the Chinese, and they have organized the Workingman's Party, which last year elected us a new mayor, Andrew Bryant. We now have a series of intolerable ordinances which make Chinese business fees exorbitant, require Chinese laundries to be in fireproof buildings, bar Chinese people from the streets after 2 a.m. and impose weighty fees on Chinese for gambling or smoking opium.

♡ ♡ ♡

Uncle Patrick has weathered yet another storm, and although buffeted about some, he has managed to stay level-headed and confident. His interest in the Bank of California was

The Fairviews of the Valley

Letters 1850—1910

Part VI

purchased through a friendship with William Ralston, and Ralston's tragic death last year unsettled Uncle Patrick in its senselessness and deceit.

I remember the occasion of our first trip to Ralston's estate in Belmont. Chad came with his carriage to take us to South City to meet Ralston's carriage where he stopped momentarily to change horses. We learned that this idiosyncrasy stemmed from a childlike desire to "beat the trains" by daily racing his carriage against the 4:52. As we approached the estate, a series of traps and switches in the roadway were tripped, opening wide the doors to his mansion. Inside was the opulence of extreme wealth.

Ralston did not limit his extravagances to himself, however, and using capital from his bank, he invested in the future of the city, also. The Mission Woolen Mills, San Francisco Sugar Refinery, Hunter's Point Dry Dock, California Theatre, and the Palace Hotel are some of the results of his largesse.

Unfortunately, the bank's branch in Virginia City, headed by a true scoundrel, William Sharon, had been supporting the mining stock speculations of the Comstock Mine. When rumors began to circulate that the mine was played out, Sharon tried to unload his Comstock shares, and people therefore assumed the Bank of California to be insolvent. Ralston's lavish spending had left the bank with little reserves, so the Board of Trustees of the bank, of which our Uncle Patrick is a member, was forced to close the bank and ask for Ralston's resignation. The next day, during a routine swim in the Bay, Ralston drowned.

To make matters worse, Uncle had just begun to come to terms with his guilt over this sordid affair when, a month later, at the opening ceremonies of the Palace Hotel, Sharon remarked about Ralston's death, "Best thing he could have done." This from the man who inherited most of Ralston's fortune!

♡ ♡ ♡

Chad and his family have taken one of the Noe family houses on the San Miguel Ranch, on the Ocean House Road, and he is assisting the Heath brothers in the operation of the milk ranch association that has been organized there. Everyone in our family, from Chad's children to Uncle Patrick, has become a delighted devotee of one of San Francisco's "traditions," the Sunday Promenade. On bright, clear Sunday mornings, Uncle and Kate drive out in their carriage from town to fetch me and we set out for the Ocean House to meet Chad's family for tea—and sinful scones—on the way. Then in both carriages we ride to the beach, where the children insist upon bare feet in the sand. At midday we head north up the Beach Road and catch a glimpse of Seal Rocks before turning east into Golden

Gate Park. The sand dunes at the west end of the park grounds still shift in the winds, but further east Mr. Hall, the park superintendent, has planted thousands of plants and there we stop with our picnic lunch and listen to the music of the band that plays. After the concert we all swarm around the carriages ready for the final treat of the day, a visit to George Dudley's candy store on 16th Street, and for the duration of the trip, out the Mission Road to home, we argue the relative merits of sarsaparilla jellies and raspberry cremes.

On other Sundays we travel downtown as a band of "progress inspectors," remarking on the speed, or scandalous lack of speed, at which the city is growing. A Londoner named Hallidie has built a cable railroad that climbs the Clay Street hill, and, of a sudden, San Francisco's hill tops are accessible.

There are those of the "new millionaires" wanting their spending to be seen, but Paris gowns and inlaid broughams being so commonplace, there's little extravagance left them. Now comes the opportunity of possessing a gaudy mansion, on a very high hill.

Some five years ago, after removing Yerba Buena Cemetery, the city undertook the construction of a new City Hall. But unlike any of the commercial construction ventures which seem to rise overnight, this "mighty monument" has but one wing completed.

These Sunday trips are somehow incomplete if we are not fortunate enough to encounter the "Emperor of North America and Protector of Mexico," a Mr. Joshua Norton. He is the delightful manipulator of this city's love for characters and survives very comfortably by trading his "notes to pay in 1880." Everyone takes a note, which enables you to travel, eat, smoke, drink, and gamble anywhere in the city.

The Palace Hotel in just one year has become world-famous. Its wealth of bay windows, the signature of San Francisco architecture, sometimes offers us a glimpse of the royalty of somewhere as we sit across Market Street in our carriage at Lotta's Fountain and talk with our friends.

Although there are still only scattered residences in Noe Valley, the city is expanding in this direction. Many new residences have been built along Mission, Guerrero and Dolores Streets, and the cross streets closer in, especially 16th, 17th and 20th, are now teeming with families.

There are a number of vegetable farmers close to us, some in the Fairmount Tract up on Chenery, others in the flats to the south of Bernal Heights. The Gilmore family lives near us on Church Street at Navy, now called 28th, and further in lives the Groves family on Church at Park, now 24th Street.

A few homes have been built along a quaint little street called Fair Oaks, which is behind the original Noe Reservation at Horner, now 23rd. The Italian Hospital at Valley and Noe opened in 1868 and closed in 1874, and still stands idle. So you see even our corner of Paradise is becoming populous!

I will close now, sending our love and wishes to you all.

Love,
India Fairview

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CAKE DECORATING classes—\$25 for four two-hour lessons. Supplies extra. Learn to make flowers, borders and more. Classes begin Thurs. evening, Sept. 9, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Tues. evening, Oct. 5, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.; Thurs. morning, Oct. 7, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Pre-registration required one week before classes begin. The Fluted Edge, 1469 Church St., S.F. 282-0577 or 647-6589.

CREATIVE BLOCK? Hypnotherapy sessions. Private and confidential. Specializing interest in art, music, vocal-work, writing, dream research and sleep disorders. Certified hypnotherapist and psychologist. Sliding scale. Phone Elizabeth Meyers, 282-8952.

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NOE VALLEY CINEMA

Films are shown Fridays at 8 p.m. at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. All films \$2 unless otherwise noted. Call 469-8890 for details.

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| Sept. 3 | Holiday: No films tonight. |
| Sept. 10 | Avant-garde classics: "Nosferatu," "Blood of a Poet," "Fall of the House of Usher." |
| Sept. 17 | Independent films by Alan Winkler, Marian Wallace, Mark Sterna |
| Sept. 24, 25 | Multi-media benefit for Noe Valley Ministry and City Celebration, produced by Noe Valley Cinema and Noe Valley Music. An extravaganza of live music, dance, poetry, film, slides and video production. |



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CALENDAR

Sept. 1&8: Film "The Last Epidemic," sponsored by Nuclear Freeze Campaign. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 8 p.m. Free.

Sept. 2-26: Member exhibition. Eye Gallery, 758 Valencia St. 285-8374

Sept. 4: "Lullabies for Mechanical Brides," a futurist musical by THUS. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 6 - Oct. 30: Beginning and intermediate jazz dance classes. Beth Abrams Dance Studio, 3435 Arroyo St., Suite 208. 282-6177.

Sept. 6: Labor Day.

Sept. 7: Anniversary party with R. W. Wainwright and his African Roots of Jazz and special guests. Bajones, 1062 Valencia St. 9 p.m.

Sept. 8: "The Institutionalization of the Arms Race," program by Nuclear Freeze Campaign. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 8 p.m. Free.

Sept. 8: First day of school and reception for parents of children K-5, sponsored by Parent-Faculty Club of Douglas School, 19th and Collingwood Streets. 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Sept. 9: Friends of Noe Valley meeting. Special elections. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 8 p.m.

Sept. 9: Admission Day.

Sept. 9&10: Registration for fall quarter at Community Music Center, 544 Capp St. 2-6 p.m. 647-6015

Sept. 11: March and rally to protest Israeli invasion of Lebanon and U.S. arms sales to Israel, sponsored by November 29 coalition. S.F. Civic Center. 1 p.m.

Sept. 11: David Reign performs benefit concert for Eureka Theatre Co. The Boarding House, 901 Columbus Ave. 7 and 10 p.m.

Sept. 11: Book party and reading: *Letters to Nanette* by Bob Biderman and *The Blind Eagle: Stories from the Courtroom* by Harriet Ziskin. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 11-16: "Cajas-y-Otras Cosas," Gallery De La Raza/Studio 24, 2851 24th St. Tues. - Sat., 1-6 p.m.

Sept. 12: Friends of Noe Valley Annual Picnic. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. 826-6918.

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Noe Valley Voice

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Sept. 12: Benefit/bash for *Noe Valley Voice*. Live entertainment including guest appearance by Bobby McFerrin, songwriter/raconteuse Teresa Tudury, and comic Lea Delaria. Finnegan's Wake, 24th St. near Castro. \$3 donation.

Sept. 12: "Personal Images," work by Karol Barske, Patricia Rodriguez and Stephen Von Mason, opening at Gallery Sanchez. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. Reception for the artists, 4-6 p.m. Show continues through Oct. 4.

Sept. 14: First meeting of Noe Valley Girl Scouts, ages 9 to 11. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 4 p.m. 285-2648.

Sept. 14: First meeting of Anything Goes Chorus, a group singing class, all voices welcome. Continues on Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m. Taught by Ellen Robinson, 648-8415. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St.

Sept. 15: William Carney reads "Cities," anti-nuclear poetry. Small Press Traffic, 3841 24th St. 8 p.m. 285-8394.

Sept. 15: Writer Clayborne Carson on "Whatever Happened to the Civil Rights Movement?" Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 15: Saxman Jules Broussard and keyboard artist Tom Coster performing "fine-tuned funk." Bajones, 1062 Valencia St. 9 p.m.

Sept. 16: Planning meeting for Noe Valley Halloween Party. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 17: "Contempt" by Jean-Luc Goddard, starring Bridgette Bardot. Eye Gallery, 758 Valencia St. 8 and 10 p.m. 285-8374.

Sept. 17&18: Rosh Hashanah celebrations, open to all. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. Sept. 17, 7-9 p.m. Sept. 18, 10 to noon.

Sept. 19: 24th St. Cultural Festival. On 24th between Mission and Potrero. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sept. 19: Poetry reading. "Womanhood: Portraits of Women in Poetry and Prose." Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 7:30 p.m. 282-2978.

Sept. 21: Slideshow on women in El Salvador, sponsored by Women's Committee on Central America. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. 8 p.m.

Sept. 21: Stress management program. District Health Center No. 1, 3850 17th St. 7 p.m. 558-3905.

Sept. 21, 23, 28, 30: Low-cost flu vaccination. District Health Center No. 1, 3850 17th St. 9-11:30 a.m. 558-3905.

Sept. 22: Film "Ecocide: A Strategy of War," by Dr. E. W. Pfeiffer. S.F. Women's Building, 3543 18th St. 8 p.m.

Sept. 22: Relaxation workshop by Katherine Powell. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 7 p.m. Free.

Sept. 24&25: Multi-media benefit for Noe Valley Ministry and City Celebration. 1021 Sanchez St. 8 p.m. both nights. \$5

Sept. 24 - Nov. 7: "Blood Knot" by Athol Fingard. S.F. Repertory Theatre, 4147 19th St. Thurs. - Sun., 8 p.m. 864-3305.

Through Sept. 25: Etchings by Esther Baron. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. Reception Sept. 25, 4-6 p.m.

Through Sept. 25: "Fantasy in Flesh! Pay a Dollar, Talk to a Nude Girl." Studio W, 3137 22nd St. Thurs. - Sat., 10 p.m. 346-9401.

Sept. 26: Yom Kippur celebration, open to all. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 7-10 p.m.

Sept. 26: Book party/poetry reading: *Have You Seen La Nueva Mujer Revolucionaria Puertorriquena?* Upstairs, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St. 2-5 p.m. 561-9055.

The Scoop on CALENDAR

Please send Calendar items before the 15th day of the month preceding month of issue to the *Noe Valley Voice*, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco 94114. Items are published on a space-available basis, with Noe Valley neighborhood events receiving priority.

ONGOING EVENTS

Bethany United Methodist Church, 1268 Sanchez St., 647-8393

- Sundays: Adult Bible class, 10 a.m. Choir: 10:30 a.m. Worship, 11 a.m. Children's class, 11 a.m. Korean Baptist Church, 1:30 p.m.
- Mon., Wed., Fri.: Aerobic Rhythms, 6-7 p.m.
- Thursdays: Children observation class, 9:30-11 a.m.
- Fridays and Saturdays: workshops, benefits, plays, potlucks, rummage sales.

Jamestown Community Center, 180 Fair Oaks St., 647-6274

- After-school program for youth in arts and crafts, animal care, tutoring, library, films, recreation for boys and girls, field trips, gymnastics, dances, weightlifting, boxing, wrestling. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- SOS. Employment and career guidance for youth. Baby-sitter service. Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 826-6880.
- Dance/ergics: Mon., Wed., 6-7 p.m.
- Los Mayores de Centro Latino senior services. 826-1647.
- Bingo. Thurs., 7-10 p.m.
- Mission Recreation Project. 826-6880
- Evening recreation: ping-pong, pool, wrestling, boxing

S.F. Home Health Service, 225 30th St., 285-5615

- Hot lunches daily, noon to 1 p.m.
- Classes in yoga, English, calligraphy, sewing, flower-arranging, Tai Chi Chuan, performing arts. Library, hingo, billiards. Mon. - Sun.
- Dances with live entertainment, Sun., 1-3 p.m.
- Swimming on Wed. and Thurs. Sign up on Mon.

Options for Women Over Forty, Women's Building, 3543 18th St., 431-6944

- Sept. 9: Monthly meeting. 333 Gough St. 6:30 p.m.
- "Second Start Program." Career/life planning, Tues., Sept. 7 - Oct. 12, 6-8 p.m. Assertiveness Training, Wed., Sept. 8 - Oct. 13, 10 a.m. to noon. Building Self-confidence, Thurs., Sept. 9 - Oct. 14, 6-8 p.m. Job Search Techniques, Fri., Sept. 24 - Oct. 29, 10 a.m. to noon.
- Support group for women over 40. Fri., Sept. 10, 17 and 24, 7:30-9:30 p.m.
- Sept. 14: Support group for women and alcohol-related problems, open to all women, free. 5-6:30 p.m.
- Women Over 40 Experimental Theatre. Wed., 7 p.m.
- Job listings; thrift store. Open weekdays, 10 to 5.
- Sunday brunch, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Career counseling by appt. Mon., 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Francis of Assisi Senior Center, 145 Guerrero St., 861-5790

- Hot lunches, Mon.-Fri., noon. 65¢.
- Legal assistance second Mon., 1-2 p.m.
- Crafts, Mon., 1 p.m.
- Bingo, Tues., 1 p.m.
- Mini-market, Wed., 12:30 p.m.
- Exercise class, Fri., 10 a.m.-noon.

Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St., 285-2788

- Noe Valley Community Archives meeting, first Sat. of month, 1 p.m.
- Preschool story hours, Tues., 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
- Story hour for older children, Thurs., 4 p.m.
- Community Garden workdays. Call for schedule.
- Through Sept. 25: Recent etchings by Esther Baran. Reception for artist Sept. 25, 4 p.m.

YMCA, 4080 Mission St., 586-6900

- Senior Center activities: hot lunches daily at noon (75-cent donation); hingo Wed. and Fri., 1 p.m.; Free health nurse and legal aid monthly (call for appt.); classes in square dancing, dressmaking, drawing, painting; day and overnight trips; stamp and coin club monthly. Call for free calendar.
- Fitness class, Tues., Thurs., 6:30-7:30 p.m. 586-6900

Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St., 282-9246

- Through Sept.: "Working People of El Salvador," exhibit of hatiks by Lisa Kokin.

Habitat, 3895 18th St. (at Sanchez)

- "Psychic Fair," Sat., 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Movement ritual, Wed., 6:30 p.m. 863-5802.
- Acting Workshop, Tues., 8 p.m. 921-8533.
- Tai Chi, Wed., 8 p.m. 863-1980.
- Acupuncture clinic, Mon. & Wed., 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 863-1980.
- Variety of lectures, seminars, workshops on psychic development, meditation, belly dancing, tarot and prosperity acquisition. Call 626-8039 for complete schedule.

S.F. Socialist School, 29 29th St., 221-3333, ext. 153

- Call for information about the many forums and classes offered at the school.

District Health Center No. 1, 3850 17th St., 558-3905

- Health information, immunizations, physical exams. Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Bajones', 1062 Valencia St., 282-2522

- Jazz/funk seven nights a week, 9 p.m.
- Sundays: Bebop with pianist Ed Kelly, 5 p.m. Bishop Norman Williams and guests, 9 p.m.
- Mondays: Martha Young Trio.
- Tuesdays: E. W. Wainwright's African Roots of Jazz
- Wednesdays: Salsa with Babatunde.
- Thursdays: Moment's Notice jazz.
- Fridays and Saturdays: Marvin Holmes and Oakland.

Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St., 282-2317

Daily:

- Office hours: Mon.-Fri., 2-7 p.m.
- Scripture and prayer, 8 a.m.
- T'ai chi exercise, 8:30 a.m.
- Noe Valley Co-op Nursery School. 821-9717.
- Draft Registration and C.O. counseling. 282-2317.
- Gallery Sanchez. 282-2317.
- People Against Nuclear Power. 285-2262.

Sundays:

- Overeaters Anonymous, 9 a.m. 282-6029.
- Noe Valley Ministry Worship, 10 a.m.
- Junior high youth program, 1st and 3rd Sun., 2-3:30 p.m. With Bethany Methodist Church.

Mondays:

- Jazz Exercise Dance. Mon., Wed., Thurs., 6:15-7:30 p.m. 282-5835.
- Fantercize. Mon., 6:15 p.m. Thurs., 6 p.m. Sat., 10 a.m. 665-1656.
- Sufi dancing, 8-10 p.m. 285-0562.
- Women for Sobriety, 8-9 p.m. 885-6176.

Tuesdays:

- Anything Goes Chorus (starts 9/14), 7-9 p.m. 654-8415.
- Noe Valley Seniors lunch, Tues., Thurs., 1 p.m.
- Yoga with Elviah, 6-7:30 p.m. 282-7686.
- Girl Scouts, 4-5:30 p.m. 285-2648

Wednesdays:

- Yoga with Elviah, 7:30-9 p.m. 282-7686.
- Prayer gathering, 5:30 p.m.

Thursdays:

- Yoga class (bring pad), 6 p.m. Free.
- Fat & Fit class (starts Sept. 9), 7:30-8:30 p.m. 333-1462

Fridays:

- Noe Valley Cinema, 8 p.m. 469-8890.

Saturdays:

- Yoga with Elviah, 8-9 p.m. 282-7686.
- T'ai chi, 10 a.m. 386-7929.
- Noe Valley Music, 8:15 p.m.
- Opera Workshop, 2-4 p.m. 282-1874.